

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/687,308

Examiner

Marissa J. Detschel

Applicant(s)

MILLERD ET AL.

Art Unit

2877

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed March 10, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-6, 8-11, 13-16, and 18-28.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

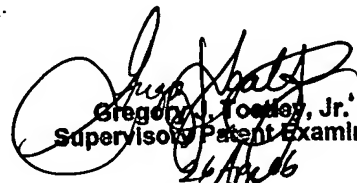
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Gregory J. Tooley, Jr.
Supervisory Patent Examiner

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed on March 10, 2006, has been fully considered by the Examiner. The amendments to the claims are accepted.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-6, 8-11, 13-16, and 18-28 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 4, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a method of correcting measurement data obtained from a multi-channel imaging system by using a cross correlation algorithm to measure a geometric distortion introduced by the system in each sub-region for each sub-image present in each of the channels of the imaging system, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 4.

As to claims 8 and 18, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a method or system for correcting measurement data obtained from a multi-channel imaging system that measures a geometric distortion introduced by the system in each sub-image in each of the channels of the system by using one of the sub-images as a reference, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claims 8 and 18.

As to claims 10, 11, 20, 21, 27, and 28, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a system or method for correcting measurement data obtained from a multi-channel imaging system utilizing a transfer-

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function correction matrix to produce a uniform intensity response to correct an intensity distortion in pixels of the sub-images in each of the channels of the system, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claims 10, 11, 20, 21, 27, and 18.

As to claim 22, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious the method of correcting measurement phase data obtained from a multi-channel interferometric imaging system by producing a plurality of additional phase maps with varying phase offsets and averaging the phase maps to produce a corrected phase map to calibrate the multi-channel imaging system, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 22.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

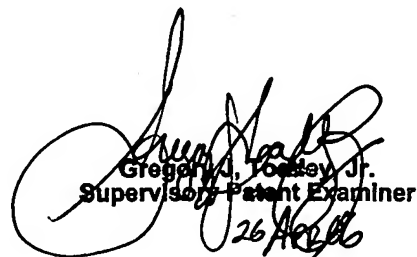
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa J. Detschel whose telephone number is 571-272-2716. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley, Jr. can be reached on 571-272-2059. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Marissa J Detschel
April 14, 2006


Gregory J. Poesley, Jr.
Supervisory Patent Examiner
26 APR 06